

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration of this application, in view of the foregoing amendment and the following remarks and arguments, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-25 were originally presented for consideration in this application, and the Examiner's allowance of Claims 1-9 is noted with appreciation. By the foregoing amendment, independent Claims 10 and 18 have been revised. Accordingly, Claims 1-25 remain in this application for consideration and allowance.

Claims 10-16 and 18-24 currently stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 5,798,834 to Brooker; and Claims 17 and 25 currently stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Brooker. These rejections are respectfully traversed for the following reasons.

Via amended independent Claims 10 and 18, all of the rejected Claims 10-25 now specify a fiber optic sensor system for use in measuring relatively low frequency and relatively frequency signals, the system comprising at least one interferometric fiber optic sensor exposed to both of the relatively low and high frequency signals, and a variable wavelength light source connected to the sensor, the light source transmitting a sweep of light wavelengths through the sensor and transmitting a relatively constant wavelength through the sensor, **the relatively low frequency signal being measured during the transmission of the sweep of light wavelengths, and the relatively high frequency signal being measured during the transmission of the relatively constant wavelength.**

Although the Brooker reference describes a sensing system wherein light transmitted through an optical sensor is both swept over a range of wavelengths and maintained constant, Brooker does not describe or suggest sensing both high and low frequency signals using the sensor.

Instead, Brooker only describes measuring very low frequency signals, such as a pressure differential due to a level of a liquid in a tank, or the depth of a submarine, and accordingly does not teach or suggest applicants' claim recitation that the relatively low frequency signal is measured during the transmission of the sweep of light wavelengths through the sensor, and the relatively high frequency signal is measured during the transmission of the relatively constant light wavelength through the sensor. It is thus respectfully submitted that none of applicants' Claims 10-25 is anticipated or in any manner rendered obvious by U.S. Patent 5,798,834 to Brooker

In view of the foregoing amendment, remarks and arguments, all of the claims currently pending in this application are now seen to be in a condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance of Claims 1-25 is therefore earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is hereby requested to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at 972/516-0030 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the instant application.

Respectfully submitted,

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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450,

on October 29, 2003
Deane Sutton